



ETN-046-PAP
Application No. 10/573,358

Date of Paper: October 22, 2010
In Regard to Notice of Allowance dated July 22, 2010

In re application of: Geiser, et al.

Confirmation No. 2725

Serial No.: 10/573,358

Group Art Unit: 2839

Filed: March 24, 2006

Examiner: Hyeon, Hae M.

For: Electrical Connection Bar and Adapted Connection Device

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I hereby certify that this correspondence and all its attachments are being deposited on **Friday, October 22, 2010** with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Barbara Kelly 10/22/10
Barbara Kelly October 22, 2010

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Dear Sir:

This paper responds to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on pages 2-3 of the Notice of Allowability mailed July 22, 2010 together with the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) Due in respect to the above-identified patent application. Applicants' Comments are submitted responsive to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance and are being timely submitted, together with the payment of the issue fee, within three months after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance in respect of the subject application. Applicants' Comments are set forth herein in order to clarify minor misstatements contained in the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. Consideration of the following comments on the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance is respectfully requested.

COMMENTS

Beginning at page 2 of the Notice of Allowability (section 1. of the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner proceeds by describing the combination of limitations set forth in amended independent Claim 9 (amended via the response to final Office Action filed June 23rd, 2010). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are defined by the meaning of the limitations set forth in the claim and as informed by the structure and description set forth throughout the specification, and should not be further limited or interpreted as characterized by the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance. Specifically, independent claim 9, as amended via the amendment after final filed June 23rd, 2010, clearly defines:

9. A connecting device intended to be engaged in a coupling bar which comprises a support and two metallic strips mounted in the support and in which a free engagement space is delimited between the metallic strips, said connecting device

comprising a casing, made from an electrically insulating material and

forming a housing provided with two input terminals for the connection of an electrical appliance of the circuit-breaker type,
wherein:

two connecting lugs project out of the casing, [for] ensuring mechanical [and] maintenance and an electrical link with the metallic strips after introduction of the metallic strips two connecting lugs into the free engagement space,

the electrical link is made from metallic parts joined respectively onto a face of one connecting lug and onto an opposite face of the other connecting lug,

each connecting lug is capable of establishing the electrical link with the corresponding metallic strip, and

the casing is also provided with two power-supply terminals integrating the electrical appliance into the power-supply circuit when a load or another appliance is connected to the power-supply terminals.

The yellow highlighted words above are used to point out the differences between the Examiner's characterization of amended independent Claim 9 in his statement of Reasons for Allowance and the actual limitations set forth in the amended independent Claim 9 (as amended in the amendment filed June 23rd, 2010). Applicants respectfully submit that the full scope of the

claims are defined solely by the limitations set forth therein and by the prior art, and that independent Claim 9, as such, clearly defines over the prior art of record. Furthermore, at least for reasons of properly depending on an allowable independent claim, Claims 11 and 13 also define over the prior art of record.

Similarly, Beginning at the third paragraph of page 2 of the Notice of Allowability (section 1. of the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance, the Examiner continues by describing the combination of limitations set forth in amended independent Claim 14 (also amended via the response to final Office Action filed June 23rd, 2010). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are defined by the meaning of the limitations set forth in the claim and as interpreted by the structure and description set forth throughout the detailed description, and should not be further limited or interpreted as characterized by the Examiner's stated Reasons for Allowance. Specifically, independent claim 14, as amended via the amendment after final filed June 23rd, 2010, defines:

14. A power supply device intended to be engaged in a coupling bar which comprises two metallic strips mounted in a support and in which a free engagement space is delimited between the metallic strips, said power supply device comprising:

an electrically insulating a casing, made from an electrically insulating material and two power supply wires, each of which is linked to a connecting lug, wherein:

said connecting lugs project out of the casing, for ensuring mechanical maintenance and an electrical link with the metallic strips after introduction of the connecting lugs into the free engagement space,

the electrical link is made from metallic parts joined respectively onto a face of one connecting lug and onto an opposite face of the other connecting lug, and

each connecting lug is capable of establishing the electrical link with the corresponding metallic strip.

Once again, the yellow highlighted words above are used to point out the differences between the Examiner's characterization of amended independent Claim 14 in his statement of Reasons for Allowance and the actual limitations set forth in the amended independent Claim 14 (as amended in the amendment filed June 23rd, 2010). Applicants respectfully submit that the full scope of the

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claims are defined solely by the limitations set forth therein and by the prior art, and that independent Claim 14, as such, clearly defines over the prior art of record. Furthermore, at least for reasons of properly depending on an allowable independent claim, Claims 15 and 16 also define over the prior art of record.

Should the Examiner have any response to these comments, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned. Fees required to cause these Comments to be complete and timely filed may be charged, and any overpayments should be credited, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0490.

Oct. 22, 2010

Date: October 22, 2010

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Respectfully submitted,



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